MR. CHAIRMAN:Already we have taken ten minutes. *(Interruptions)* Yesterday also this issue was discussed in the meeting. ... *(Interruptions)*... Shri Suresh Pachouri.

CALLING ATTENTION TO A MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

Depletion of water resources in various parts of the country

श्री सुरेश पचौरी (मध्य प्रदेश) : माननीय सभापति जी, मैं देश के विभिन्न भागों में जल संसाधनों की कमी की ओर जल संसाधन मंत्री का ध्यान आकर्षित करता हूं ।

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (DR. C.P. THAKUR): Sir, I would like to thank the hon. Member, Shri Suresh Pachouri for raising this issue on such a topical subject. Sir, I also thank you for allowing this subject to be discussed in the House.

Sir, long-term observations made by the Central Ground Water Board have shown a situation of fall in the level of ground water in various parts of the country. The names of the States/districts showing pockets where fall in ground water level for more than 4 metres (1981999) has been observed are indicated in the statement which is before you.

Sir, the main reasons for decline in the level of ground water are:

(i) Rapid pace of urbanisation has resulted in reduction in recharge of aquifers. Pervious areas have become less pervious.

(ii) Increasing demand in agricultural and industrial sectors as well as domestic needs for the ever growing population results in high stress on ground water.

(iii) Change in cropping pattern in order to raise water intensive crops has resulted in over-exploitation of ground water in certain areas.

(iv) Stress on ground water during drought period when all other sources fall.

Water, that is to say, water supplies, irrigation and canals, drainage and

embankments, water storage and water power, being a State subject, action to augment ground water resources is to be taken by the State Governments. However, the steps taken by the Union Government to increase the ground water level in the country include:

(i) The Central Ground Water Authority has been constituted under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 for regulation and control of ground water management and development throughout the country.

(ii) The Central Ground Water Board has undertaken a Central sector scheme on pilot basis on artificial recharge of ground water at an estimated cost of Rs.25 crores during the Ninth Five Year Plan. The allocation for the current financial year is Rs.5.00 crores. State-wise allocation of funds under the scheme is not made. Funds are provided to States for construction of civil works for recharge structures on cost-deposit basis on behalf of the Central Ground Water Board. The Government have formulated a centrally-sponsored scheme to assist the States in Artificial Recharge of ground water at an estimated cost of Rs. 101.50 crores. This Scheme is at consultation stage in the Planning Commission.

A model Bill has been circulated to all the States/Union Territories, to enable them to enact suitable legislation for regulation and control of ground water development.

A manual on Artificial Recharge of ground water has been circulated to the States/Union Territories to enable them to formulate area specific Artificial Recharge Schemes to check the declining trend in ground water levels.

A national perspective plan for recharge of ground water by utilising surplus monsoon runoff has been prepared.

With a view to promoting the roof top rain water harvesting, the Ministry of Water Resources has proposed to the Ministry of Urban Development to consider making suitable regulations for roof top rain water harvesting for Delhi and other cities by organisations/agencies concerned.

STATEMENT

Name of the State/Districts having pockets with fall in ground water level of more than four meters during pre-monsoon period (1980-1999)

STATE	DISTRICTS
Haryana	Bhiwani, Rohtak, Jind, Yamunanagar, Kurukshetra, Karnal, Kaithal, Mahendergardh, Rewari, Gurgaon, Faridabad, Panipat.
Punjab	Amritsar, Jalandhar, Firozpur, Faridkot, Ludhiana, Fatehgarh, Patiala, Sangrur, Bhatinda.
Rajasthan	Alwar, Bikaner, Churu, Jhunjhunu, Bharatpur, Dholpur, Dosa, Jaipur, Sikar, Nagaur, Jaisalmer, Ajmer, Tonk, Sawai, Madhopur, Pali, Jalore, Sirohi, Barmer, Jodhpur, Bhilwara, Rajsamand, Udaipur, Kota, Mandsor, Chittorgarh, Bundi.
Gujarat	Bhuj, Rajkot, Jamnagar, Junagarh, Amreli, Surendernagar, Banaskantha.
Uttar Pradesh	Nainital, Moradabad, Bulandsahar, Bareilly, Aligarh, Mathura, Agra, Gonda, Luncknow, Kanpur, Allahabad, Fatehpur, Banda, Hamirpur, Firozabad, Lalitpur, Gaziabad, Fatehgarh, Saharanpur, Meerut, jounpur, Jhansi, Banaras, Balia.
West Bengal	Purulia
Assam	Golaghat, Sonitpur, Lakheempur, Kachchar.
Madhya Pradesh	Guna, Panna, Satara, Sahjahpur, Sagar, Ambekapur, Ujjain, Dewas, Dhar, Indore, Khargone, Chindwara, Narsinghpur, Hosangabad, Bilaspur, Raipur, Jagdalpur, Murena, East Nimar, Rajnandgaon, Durg, Ratlam,
Karnataka	Bangalore, Belgaum, Bellary, Bijapur, Dharwar, Kolar, Mandia, Uttar Kanada, Shimoga, Gulbarga, Mysore.
Tamil Nadu	South Arcot, Salem, Coimbatore, Puddukotai, Mudurai,

	Tiruvarur, Kamarajar, Thirunalveli, Tiruncherapalli, Thanjavur.
Bihar	East Singabhum, Ranchi.
Maharashtra	Jalgaon.
Andhra Pradesh	Medak, Rangareddy, Mehboobnagar, Nalgonda, Cuddapah, Chittor.
Orissa	Koraput, Mayurbhanj.

श्री सुरेश पचौरी : सभापति महोदय, देश के अनेक भागों में जल-स्तर निरंतर नीचे गिरता जा रहा है तथा जल का समुचित संरक्षण नहीं हो पा रहा है। यह एक ऐसी समस्या है जिस के प्रति यदि हम समय रहते सचेत नहीं हुए या इस समस्या को समय पर नहीं सुलझा पाए तो इस समस्या से उबरना हमारे लिए बहुत मुश्किल हो जाएगा।

महोदय, ऐसी भविष्यवाणी हुई है कि अगला विश्व युद्ध पानी को लेकर होगा। स्वयं मंत्री जी ने अपने वक्तव्य में स्वीकार किया है कि ऐसे 14 राज्य हैं जहां भू जल-स्तर में 4 मीटर से अधिक की गिरावट आई है और मेरे प्रदेश, मध्य प्रदेश में 22 ऐसे जिले हैं जिन में जल-स्तर में गिरावट आई है। जल-स्तर में गिरावट के जिन कारणों का उल्लेख माननीय मंत्री जी ने किया है, उस के अलावा मैं आप के माध्यम से यहां निवेदन करना चाहूंगा कि जल-स्तर में गिरावट का मूल कारण यह है कि हम जल किन-किन कामों में उपयोग में लाते हैं, उस का हम सही ढंग से क्लासिफिकेशन नहीं कर पाए हैं। एक तो पीने के पानी का उपयोग कैसे हो, दूसरे सिंचाई के लिए या कृषि के लिए पानी का उपयोग कैसे हो और उद्योग के लिए पानी का उपयोग कैसे हो, यदि हम यह सुनिश्चित कर लें तो इस समस्या से हम अपने आप को बहुत हद तक उबार सकते हैं।

महोदय, बारिश के जल का हम सही संवर्धन नहीं कर पा रहे हैं और वह बेकार बह जाता है। बारिश के सीजन में हम पानी को सही ढंग से संकलित नहीं कर पाते हैं और यही वजह है कि जब गर्मी का सीजन आता है तब हमें न केवल पीने के पानी की समस्या का सामना करना पड़ता है बल्कि हम कृषि कार्य के लिए सिंचित सुविधाएं भी उपलब्ध नहीं करा पाते हैं और उद्योगों के लिए भी पानी की कमी महसूस करते हैं। महोदय, वर्ष 1987 में यद्यपि राष्ट्रीय जल नीति बनी और उस के जो तत्व निर्धारित किए गए कि सरफेस वाटर और ग्राउंड वाटर को किस ढंग से अधिक-से-अधिक सीमा तक उपयोगी बनाएं, इस बारे में विचार करने का उस में उल्लेख था। साथ ही जल संवर्धन के लिए जागरूकता कैसे लाई जाए, इस बारे में भी विचार करने का उल्लेख था और जिन स्थानों में ज्यादा बारिश होती है, वहां ज्यादा जल

संग्रहित किया जाय, वहां से जल अनावश्यक रूप से न बहे बल्कि जिन राज्यों में कम बारिश होती है, जहां पीने के पानी और अन्य प्रकार की सिंचित सुविधाओं के लिए जरूरी पानी की कमी है, वहां उस का कैसे उपयोग किया जाए या कैसे हस्तांतरण किया जाए - इन सब बातों का उस में उल्लेख किया गया है। महोदय, आज की परिस्थितियों के परिप्रेक्ष्य में देश के विभिन्न राज्यों के जल-स्तर में जो गिरावट आ रही है, जिस के बारे में राजनीतिक पार्टियों से ऊपर उठकर सभी माननीय सदस्य कर रहे हैं, इस समस्या का, इस चुनौती का सामना करने के लिए, उस 87 की जल नीति में संशोधन की आवश्यकता है। महोदय, स्वयं प्रधान मंत्री जी ने 22 मार्च, 1998 को ....

श्री नरेन्द्र मोहन (उत्तर प्रदेश) : सभापति जी, 5 मिनिट हो गए हैं। ...**(व्यवधान)**... अगर इन्हें ज्यादा टाइम दिया जाएगा तो हम भी ज्यादा टाइम लेंगे।

श्री सुरेश पचौरी : सर, आप कहें तो बैठ जाता हूं।

श्री सभापति : आप एक मिनिट में वाइंड-अप कर दीजिए।

श्री सुरेश पचौरी : मान्यवर, मैं आपके माध्यम से यह उल्लेख करना चाहूंगा कि कृषि, उद्योग और पेयजल के लिए भूजल का दोहन करने वालों के लिए रिचार्जिंग तकनीक का उपयोग किया जाना बहुत जरूरी है। रेन वाटर की हारवेस्टिंग के बारे में कठोर से कठोर निर्णय लेकर उसका पालन करना बहुत जरूरी है। जो नेशनल वाटर बोर्ड बना, उसकी यद्यपि मीटिंग हुई, लेकिन उससे जो नतीजे निकले उनका परिपालन समय रहते किया जाना बहुत जरूरी है और जो नॉन डोमेस्टिक यूज़ के लिए रिचार्जिंग वाटर सिस्टम तैयार किया गया है, उसका परिपालन किया जाना जरूरी है। सिंचाई के लिए भी वर्षा के जल को सही ढंग से कैसे हम संरक्षित करें, इस पर भी सोचा जाना जरूरी है और साथ ही एन.जी.ओज़., सामाजिक संस्थाओं और ऐसे शोधकर्ताओं को तैयार करने की जरूरत है जो इस प्रकार के कार्यक्रम में लगें। जो रूफ वाटर हारवेस्टिंग प्रोग्राम चल रहा है, उसको प्रोत्साहन दिया जाना चाहिए। खुद मेरे प्रदेश के देवास जिले में ऐसे कई स्थान हैं जहां रूफ वाटर हारवेस्टिंग प्रोग्राम चलाया जा रहा है - एक पाइप के ज़रिए उस ग्राउंड में पानी को संकलित करते हैं और एक नई तकनीक को अपनाते हुए उस वाटर को ड्रिंकिंग वाटर के रूप में कन्वर्ट किया जाता है। इन सारे कार्यक्रमों को प्रोत्साहन दिया जाना बहुत जरूरी है। ग्राउंड वाटर के एक्सप्लॉयटेशन को रोकना जरूरी है।

श्री सभापति : आपकी बात हो गई, धन्यवाद।

श्री सुरेश पचौरी : मान्यवर, मैं यह कहकर अपनी बात समाप्त करना चाहूंगा कि ग्राउंड वाटर के एक्सप्लॉयटेशन को रोकने के लिए, रेन वाटर हारवेस्टिंग को करने के लिए, साथ ही उद्योग के लिए, कृषि के लिए और पीने के लिए कौन सा पानी उपयोग में लाया जाए

इसको क्लासिफाइ करने के बाद समय रहते समुचित और पर्याप्त कदम उठाए जाने की जरूरत है तब पूरे देश के विभिन्न भागों में, चाहे गुजरात हो, राजस्थान हो, मध्य प्रदेश हो, उड़ीसा हो या अन्य कोई स्थान हो, उनमें पीने के पानी और अन्य पानी के जल-स्तर में जो गिरावट आ रही है उसका हम सामना कर सकते हैं।

MR. CHAIRMAN : Prof. Bharati Ray; you have to confine yourself to five minutes only.

PROF. (SHRIMATI) BHARATI RAY (West Bengal) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to call the attention of the Government to the most serious crisis in India, the depletion of water resources in various parts of the country.

In Bengal, there is a proverb which means another name for water is life. This life is being sucked away before our own eyes. Now, I would like to know what the Government is going to do about it. Since time is very short, I will put my points in the form of questions. The first question relates to law. Strangely in India, while surface water is the State property, groundwater is the private property. It belongs to the land owners, and the Government has no control over 'private water'. People sink tubewells indiscriminately, and the Government also follows the same policy. Consequently, as has been mentioned by Shri Suresh Pachouri, the level of water is going down. While individual households and urban complexes are also responsible, the biggest exploiters of ground water are rich farmers. You have mentioned about this in your statement at point no. 3. The big farmers dig wells and they grow sugercane, they grow dry-seasonal rice, they grow banana, where water is not available, and the marginal farmers suffer because they cannot afford to dig for more than 20-30 ft. and there is no water for them. Please do not tell me that it comes under the Department of Agriculture, because agriculture, water and forests are connected together. Therefore, the Water Minister must consult the Forest Minister as well as the Agriculture Minister in order to see what can be done for drafting of a coordinated plan. Has the Government any plans to bring any law to change the current mode of water ownership? That is to say, bring a legislation for the regulation of ground water and ensure equitable distribution of ground water. Secondly, I would also like to know whether the Government has any plans for the conjunctive use of surface water and ground water. We must save our rivers, however, critical the river situation may be. We know that the perennial rivers are becoming dry. There is also

a huge problem of the Ganges belt in my State of West Bengal.

Thirdly, rain water is a scarce commodity. I will not repeat the point which Mr. Pachouri has mentioned. I only want to say that the indigenous methods of saving water and conserving water have been neglected by the Government. There are the traditional methods like roof-top harvesting and Rajasthan koon(?). Does the Government have any plan for revitalising these indigenous methods and encouraging the community-run water-harvesting system in both urban and rural areas?

Fourthly, while the Government does not encourage the traditional methods, it does not use modern methods either. Why does it not use satellites which can beam images showing the state of vegetation? The Space Department's Integrated Centre can be used for mapping of areas where conservation is possible, where water can be recharged or where tubewells can not be installed. Or, shall I assume that they have sent the signals, but the Government has ignored them?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please wind up. Four minutes are over.

PROF. (SHRIMATI) BHARATI RAY: Okay. The last but one point is that the ecological impact of the mindless felling of trees has also to be taken care of by the Surface Water Department.

There is no time to explain that, in India, the per capita forest area is 0.08 hectares, the lowest in the world. I do not have to say how forest and water are connected.

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is all right.

PROF. (SHRIMATI) BHARATI RAY: The last point only.

Women are responsible for fetching water from 12 kms. The big programmes for development or empowerment of women are only on paper. What does the Government do to reduce this daily chore so that their energies can be channelled into more productive areas?

Sir, in this country of ours, water-scarcity is not so much of a problem as management scarcity is. Will the Government allocate, manage and plan the use and distribution of water scientifically and give us what we all need; good management and good governance?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Sanjay Nirupam, five minutes. Do not

prolong. Otherwise, others will follow it.

श्री संजय निरुपम (महाराष्ट्र) : आदरणीय सभापति महोदय, मैं अपनी बात शुरू करने से पहले कवि रहीम जी को याद करना चाहता हूं। आपको भी याद होगा, रहीम ने कहा है कि - "रहिमन पानी राखिए, बिन पानी सब सून"।

श्री सभापति : पानी भी कम इस्तेमाल करना चाहिए और बोलना भी कम चाहिए।

श्री संजय निरुपम : सभापति महोदय, हमारी आज़ादी को करीब 53 वर्ष हो गए हैं, इसके बावजूद आज हमारे देश में लोग पानी के लिए तरस रहे हैं। मंत्री महोदय ने जो जवाब दिया है, मैं इनके सारे जवाबों को पिछले 2-3 सालों से सुनता और पढ़ता रहा हूं, इसमें इन्होंने बताया है कि पानी की प्रति व्यक्ति उपलब्धता लगातार घटती जा रही है।

महोदय, 1951 में पानी की प्रति व्यक्ति उपलब्धता 5,177 क्यूबिक मीटर थी जो घटकर आज 1,869 क्यूबिक मीटर हो गई है। अनुमान है कि वर्ष 2025 में यह घटकर यह 1,350 क्यूबिक मीटर हो जाएगी। मंत्री महोदय ने इसके जो बहुत से कारण बताए हैं, उनमें एक कारण उन्होंने यह भी बताया है कि जनसंख्या जैसे-जैसे बढ़ती जा रही है, वैसे-वैसे प्रति व्यक्ति पानी की उपलब्धता भी कम होती जा रही है। महोदय, मैं महाराष्ट्र से आता हूं और महाराष्ट्र के बारे में मैं एक जानकारी आपको देना चाहता हूं कि जैसे पूरे देश की जनसंख्या बढ़ रही है, वैसे ही महाराष्ट्र की जनसंख्या भी बढ़ रही है। लेकिन 5 साल पहले जब वहां शिव सेना और भारतीय जनता पार्टी की सरकार आई तो उस सरकार ने टॉप प्रायोरिटी पेयजल की व्यवस्था को दी और इसके लिए 7,100 करोड़ रुपए का पेयजल प्रोजेक्ट बनाया गया और यह तय किया गया कि महाराष्ट्र के गांव-गांव में पीने का पानी पहुंचाया जाएगा और लगभग साढ़े तीन हजार करोड़ रुपए इस पर खर्च किए गए और 70 फीसदी से ज्यादा गांवों में पीने का पानी पहुंचाया गया, हैंड पंप लगा दिए गए।

महोदय, हमारा प्रोजेक्ट था टैंकर मुक्त महाराष्ट्र यानी Tanker free Maharashtra. बाकायदा यह योजना लागू की गई और आज इसका लाभ महाराष्ट्र को मिल रहा है। महोदय, अब मैं जो बात कहने जा रहा हूं, उसे राजनीतिक दृष्टि से न देखा जाए। महोदय, मैं यह कहना चाहता हूं कि जैसे ही हमारी सरकार सत्ता से गई और कांग्रेस सरकार सत्ता में आई, उस समय तक ऐसे 30 प्रतिशत गांव बचे थे जिनमें पीने का पानी मुहैया नहीं कराया जा सका था। उन गांवों में पेयजल की व्यवस्था के लिए धन भी आवंटित था लेकिन जैसे ही कांग्रेस सरकार सत्ता में आई, उसने अपनी प्रॉयोरिटी बदल दी और पेयजल उपलब्ध कराने के लिए जो पैसा रखा गया था, उस पैसे को उन्होंने दूसरी योजनाओं

में डाईवर्ट कर दिया। लिहाज़ा आज 30 परसेंट गांव ऐसे हैं जहां पीने के पानी का संकट है। तो मैं राजनीतिक द्वेष की वजह से कुछ नहीं बोल रहा हूं, मैं सिर्फ मंत्री महोदय से यह निवेदन करना चाहूंगा कि पीने का पानी पहुंचाने का जो प्रश्न है वह कानून से हल नहीं होने वाला है, वह दिल से हल होने वाला है। हमारे मन में यह विश्वास होना चाहिए, हमारे मन में यह योजना होनी चाहिए कि हर व्यक्ति को हमें पीने का पानी देना है। सरकारें बदलते ही वह प्राथमिकताएं नहीं बदलनी चाहिए। तो क्या केन्द्र सरकार की तरफ से यह निर्देश मंत्री महोदय प्रत्येक राज्य को देना चाहेंगे कि एक निर्धारित समय में आप अपने-अपने राज्यों में जितने भी गांव हैं, जितने भी शहर हैं वहां पर पीने का पानी उपलब्ध कराने की योजना बनाएं, भले ही सरकारें बदलें, राजनीतिक पार्टियां बदल जाएं, वहां पर सत्तारूढ़ दल बदल जाएं, लेकिन जो योजना बन गई उस योजना को पूरी तरह से लागू करने के लिए सारी सरकारें, सारे राजनीतिक दल संकल्पबद्ध हों? तो माननीय मंत्री महोदय से मैं यह जानना चाहूंगा कि पेयजल संकट दूर करने के लिए हमारे देश में हमारी सरकार ने क्या कोई एक्शन प्लान बनाया है? उस एक्शन प्लान के लिए क्या कोई एक समय-सीमा निर्धारित की गई है? क्या माननीय मंत्री महोदय पूरे गर्व से इस सदन में कह सकते हैं कि फलां-फलां ईयर तक, फलां-फलां साल तक इस देश में पीने के पानी का संकट नहीं रहेगा, इस देश के हर आदमी को हम पीने का पानी उपलब्ध करा देंगे? यह मेरा पहला प्रश्न है और इसके लिए जो जरूरी बातें हैं वह मैं कहना चाह रहा हूं सभापति महोदय। हमारे देश में पानी बहुत है, बारिश भी खूब होती है, नदियां भी खूब हैं। हमारे देश का 1/5 हिस्सा पानी इजरायल में है। इजरायल में पीने के पानी का संकट कभी नहीं होता। जो अंतर्राष्ट्रीय क्राइटेरिया - पैमाना है, पर-केपिटा वाटर अवेलेबिलिटी का, वह एक हजार क्यूबिक मीटर है, उससे भी कम है इजरायल में पानी। उसके बावजूद इजरायल में आज तक पेयजल संकट नहीं हुआ, क्योंकि इजरायल में उपलब्ध पानी का सही तरीके से मेनेजमेंट होता है और उपलब्ध पानी को सही ढंग से दूसरे क्षेत्रों में जहां पानी का संकट है, पानी की किल्लत है वहां पहुंचाया जाता है। इजरायल में पानी को राष्ट्रीय सम्पदा घोषित किया गया है। मैं माननीय मंत्री महोदय से निवेदन करना चाहूंगा, मैं उनसे पूछना चाहूंगा कि क्या हमारी सरकार या उनकी मिनिस्ट्री के पास कोई ऐसी योजना है कि भारत में भी पानी को राष्ट्रीय सम्पदा घोषित किया जाए?

श्री सभापति : आपका टाईम हो गया।

श्री संजय निरुपम : मैं दो बातें और कहूंगा।

श्री सभापति : टाईम खत्म हो गया आपका।

श्री संजय निरुपम : पानी को एक राष्ट्रीय सम्पदा घोषित करने के संबंध में मैं

माननीय मंत्री महोदय से जानना चाहूंगा कि ऐसी कोई योजना है तो बताएं? हमारे देश में 1987 में एक राष्ट्रीय जल नीति आई थी। उस जल नीति में बहुत दोष थे। उन दोषों को दूर करने के लिए एक अपडेटिड नेशनल वाटर पॉलिसी ड्राफ्ट तैयार किया गया। मंत्री महोदय के जवाब से मुझे यह जानकारी मिली है कि अक्तूबर, 98 में वह पॉलिसी जो सुधारात्मक पॉलिसी है वह सरकार के समक्ष रखी गई लेकिन आज तक उस पॉलिसी की घोषणा नहीं की गई। उस पौलिसी को आज तक एडोप्ट नहीं किया गया। जब यह इतनी बड़ी समस्या है तो मैं माननीय मंत्री महोदय से पूछना चाहूंगा कि उस वाटर पौलिसी को कब तक घोषित करने की योजना है और पानी को राष्ट्रीय सम्पदा घोषित करने का कोई विचार है या नहीं? अंत में, जैसे पीने के पानी की किल्लत, इसके साथ-साथ दूसरी बड़ी समस्या है - दूषित पानी की। हमारे देश में जिस तरह से पानी उपलब्ध हो रहा है वह दोषपूर्ण पानी है। उससे बहुत ज्यादा समस्याएं हैं। मैं गांव की बात नहीं कर रहा हूं, दिल्ली शहर की बात कर रहा हूं। कल के अखबार की मैं एक-दो बातें सुनाना चाहता हूं।

श्री सभापति : पढ़ने की जरूरत नहीं है, आप बतला दीजिए।

श्री संजय निरुपम : उसमें बताया गया है कि दिल्ली के पास गुड़गांवा में और उसके आसपास के एरियाज में पानी में नाइट्रेट और सोडियम नाइट्रेट और फलोराइड इतनी बड़ी मात्रा में है कि उससे तमाम बीमारियां हो सकती हैं। बिरला मंदिर के पास जाकर के जब पानी की जांच की गई तो पाया गया कि उसमें जो मात्रा होनी चाहिए नाइट्रेट और फलोराइड की उसकी लगभग 600 से ज्यादा परसंटेज उसमें है। यह इस देश की राजधानी की समस्या है। तो पानी के दोष दूर करने के लिए, पानी के शुध्दिकरण के लिए माननीय मंत्री जी के पास क्या योजना है, मैं यह जानना चाहूंगा?

मैं सबसे महत्पूर्ण बात यह भी पूछना चाहूंगा कि पिछले 50-55 साल में इस देश में पेयजल उपलब्ध कराने के लिए कितना पैसा खर्च किया गया? क्योंकि हमारे यहां पैसे की कमी नहीं है, हमारे यहां योजनाओं की भी कमी नहीं है। माननीय राजीव गांधी ने भी कहा था कि हमारे यहां से जब एक रुपया निकलता है तो वह गांव तक पहुंचते-पहुंचते दो पैसे रह जाता है, तो मंत्री महोदय यह बताएं कि अब तक पेयजल संकट को दूर करने के लिए कितना पैसा खर्च किया गया है? विदेशी बैंक से, विदेशी वित्तीय संस्थाओं से कितने पैसे आए हैं? हर साल कितने पैसे केन्द्र सरकार की तरफ से जाते हैं विभिन्न राज्यों में? विभिन्न राज्यों के पास ऐसी क्या-क्या योजना है? अंतिम हमारे पास महाराष्ट्र का एक प्रश्न है।

श्री सभापति : बस, हो गया। यह आपने तीसरी बार कहा है कि मेरा अंतिम प्रश्न है। श्री प्रेमचन्द गुप्ता। आपको पांच मिनट में खत्म करना है।

श्री संजय निरुपम : सर, मैं एक मिनट में खत्म कर दूंगा।

श्री सभापति : नहीं, अब नहीं। आपका हो गया।

श्री संजय निरुपम : सर, महाराष्ट्र के बारे में कहना चाहता हूं।

श्री सभापति : महाराष्ट्र के बारे में आपने पहले शुरु किया था। मैंने आपका भाषण सुना है।

श्री संजय निरुपम : सर, सिर्फ इतना पूछना चाहता हूं कि क्या महाराष्ट्र की सरकार ने केन्द्र सरकार को ऐसा निवेदन किया है ...

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, nothing will go on record. Mr. Prem Chand Gupta.

SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA (Bihar): Mr. Chairman, Sir, after 50 years of Independence and India being one of the fastest growing countries in the world, it is a matter of grave concern for us that we have not been able to even assure hygienic water supply to half of the population. Our existing water resources are depleting day by day and no complete plan is there in the offing. Government after Government have assured this nation, time and again, about ensuring supply of hygienic water to all the villages in the country, but it is still a dream. I am not involving politics in this. But, it is a matter of fact and thereby, it is a matter of serious concern for all of us. It may be interesting to note that if only 10 per cent of our water resources are properly utilized, 100 per cent of our population can have assured supply of water which is hygienic and good in every respect. But, unfortunately, nothing has been done in this direction. Now that we have crossed the one-billion population mark, the time has come when something serious has to be done. Otherwise, we would have no face or reply to the future generations who would hold us responsible. The Ministry of Water Resources have, time and again, passed on the responsibility of managing water resources to the States and Union Territories and the States and the Union Territories have, in turn, prepared schemes on paper and sent to the Central Government for assistance. What has been going on for the last 50 years is like a foot-ball game, the Central Government holding the States responsible and the States holding the Central Government responsible.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, water depletion is so serious that during the last 20 years, in some of the districts in our country, the water table has gone

down by almost 10 metres. It is a matter of serious concern for all of us. Thirty-five per cent of our geographical area in 13 States is prone to drought. One drought in two States has proved where we stand as far as our water management is concerned and still, we are not taking any effective steps in this direction. The Government, in its reply, has suggested that certain measures are being taken. I had put a question to the hon. Minister, during the Question Hour one day in the last Session. That is, 40 per cent of Bihar, North Bihar, is under water for 4-5 months in a year, but nothing has been done. Mr. Chairman, Sir, look at the capability of our planners. I am sorry I am using these harsh words. They are thinking of harvesting water on the roof-top of buildings in Delhi, Calcutta, Mumbai and Madras, causing an increase in construction by almost 100 per cent. But they are not doing anything where water is available. It causes damage to the crop. It causes damage to humanity. Nothing is being done on that. It is a matter of great concern for all of us. There is a system of artificial re-charge of ground water. Some experiments have been carried out in various places in the States. Particularly, in Jalgaon and Amravati districts of Maharashtra, the water table has gone up by four metres just by using the dicharge technology, which is not cost intensive. It is a very simple system but nobody has done anything on that count.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please wind up.

SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: Mr. Chairman, Sir, the recently held Second World Water Forum has projected that by the year 2025, India would be one of the worst affected country in as far as water availability is concerned. I hope the Government is aware of this fact and I wish they had some serious plans in the offing. Otherwise, we would be heading towards a serious water shortage. Mr. Chairman, Sir, India has 4000 billion cubic metres of rain every year and the storage capacity to store the rain water is only 172 billion cubic metres. I wonder what our planners are doing. Certain dams have to be constructed, water has to be stored somewhere so that water can be used in different parts of the country where it is required. We have been thinking on the water grids and the World Bank had offered some assistance in this respect. This scheme is pending for the last twenty years. We have now, Shri C.P. Thakur, as the Minister. He is a very capable Minister. I want that he does something not only for the northern Bihar but for the whole country. Thank you.

SHRI NARENDRA MOHAN: Sir, I am on a point of order. I would like to draw your kind attention to the Revised List of Business. In the Revised List of Business, my name has been at serial No. 4. I do not know why I have not been included in the list. Let me complete my point of order, Sir. I will abide by your orders. I would like to refer to rule 180 which deals with the whole issue, and as per this rule, a member may, with the previous permission of the Chairman, call the attention of a Minister to any matter of urgent public importance. Sir, you have been very kind to give me the permission. Since you have granted me the permission, and you had also given a ruling last year... *(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Let me tell you the whole thing. Here is Parliamentary Bulletin, Part-2, Tuesday, February 1, 2000, in which at page 5, the Calling Attention has been mentioned. It says: " Where a Calling Attention Notice stands in the name of a number of Members, in choosing Members who desire to seek clarifications, the first principle will be, party/group. After exhausting the parties/groups, whose Members have given the notice, and if there is time, by calling one Member from each party/ group, Chairman may call Members belonging to parties groups not in the list. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI NARENDRA MOHAN: You are absolutely correct, Sir. *(Interruptions)* Let me complete my submission.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Here, I have got a note from Mr. O. Rajagopal which says, on behalf of the BJP, Shri Anantray Devshanker Dave will speak. Now, Mr. Kaushik. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI NARENDRA MOHAN: My submission is this. Please listen to me.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Are you questioning my ruling?

SHRI NARENDRA MOHAN: No, Sir. *(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Then sit down. I have already answered the point of order raised by you. I have already told you about the latest practice and what is there in the Parliamentary Bulletin. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI NARENDRA MOHAN: Sir....

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing will go on record.

श्री रमा शंकर कौशिक (उत्तर प्रदेश) : श्रीमन्, माननीय मंत्री जी के स्टेटमेंट से ज्ञात हुआ कि हमारे देश में लगभग 150 ज़िले पेयजल संकट से तड़प रहे हैं, उन्हें पेयजल नहीं मिल रहा है। पशुओं को भी पेयजल नहीं मिल रहा है और यह स्थिति हमारे देश में निरंतर बढ़ती चली जा रही है। 70 के दशक में हमारे देश के 74 ज़िले इस बीमारी से पीड़ित थे, जल के अभाव से पीड़ित थे और सन् 80 के आते-आते वे 100 ज़िले हो गए और आज जैसा कि मंत्री जी ने बताया है, इससे 150 ज़िले प्रभावित हैं। हजार से भी ज्यादा जो हमारे विकास खंड हैं, वे इससे प्रभावित हैं। यह बात सही है कि हमारे देश में वर्षा की कमी हुई लेकिन जो मौजूदा संकट है इसको मैं वर्षा की कमी से नहीं जोड़ता हूं। वर्षा की कमी से यह संकट पैदा नही हुआ है बल्कि यह नियोजन से हुआ है। आजादी के बाद से जो हमारे देश में नियोजन हुआ है, जिस प्रकार से प्लान बने, उनमें भाखड़ा को मंदिर माना गया, टिहरी गढ़वाल को तमाम पैसा झोंका जा रहा है, सरदार सरोवर में पैसा लगाया जा रहा है। गुजरात के सिंचाई विभाग का 80 फीसदी पैसा सरदार सरोवर में लगाया जा रहा है। यह नई बात नहीं है। मौसम विज्ञान के आधार पर बारिश के हिसाब से हमारा देश 35 हिस्सों में बंटा हुआ है। आज से नहीं बल्कि सदियों से यह सिलसिला होता आया है कि कुछ समय के लिए मारवाड़ से लोग मालवा को अपने पशुओं को लेकर जाते रहे हैं और जैसलमेर तथा बाडमेर से लोग गुजरात व खुशहाल इलाकों में जाते रहे हैं। गावों में पानी का प्रबंध होता रहा है लेकिन अब दूसरी स्थिति हो गई है। इसमें कोई शक नहीं है कि नहरें बढ़ी हैं। हमारे यहां भी बड़ी-बड़ी योजनाएं चली हैं, मध्यम योजनाएं चली हैं और परियोजनाएं चली हैं इसमें भी कोई शक नही है। इनसे हमारा जल संकट न दूर हुआ है और न ही होगा बल्कि स्थिति और बिगड़ती चली जा रही है। हमको अपने नियोजन को अपने देश की परिस्थितियों के मुताबिक करना पड़ेगा, जैसा हमारे यहां पहले से होता रहा है। अरावली की सूखी पहाड़ियों से मेघालय तक और रन कच्छ से लेकर गंगा के मैदान तक तथा दूसरे इलाकों में सब जगहों पर लोगों ने व्यवस्थाएं की हैं। हड़प्पाकाल का धौलावीर जो अब रन कच्छ का शहर या कस्बा है, उसकी व्यवस्था देखिए। वहां पर 265 मिली मीटर वर्षा होती रही है और आज भी वही स्थिति है लेकिन वहां के लोग ऐसी व्यवस्था चलाते थे कि अंडर ग्राउंड नालियों से बड़े कुंड में पानी भरते थे। राजस्थान में भी बराबर यही स्थिति हो रही है। जब हमारा देश आजाद हुआ तब पांच लाख तालाब थे। आज तालाबों की यह स्थिति है कि हजारों की तादाद में भी नहीं रह गए है। उत्तर प्रदेश में वर्षा कोई कम नहीं होती है लेकिन उत्तर प्रदेश में आज सैकड़ों नहीं हजारों गांवों में जल की समस्या है। हमारे देश में नल छोटी मशीन से चलते थे, अब वे फेल हो गए हैं। जहां पर इंडिया मार्क-2 नल लगे हैं वहां तो पानी मिलता है लेकिन जो नल छोटी मशीन से चलते थे उनसे पानी नहीं मिलता है। इसका कारण यह है कि वहां पर तालाब खत्म हो गए

हैं। हमने वाह-वाही लूटने के लिए पट्टों पर जमीन दे दी। खेती हुई या नहीं हुई, यह एक अलग प्रश्न है लेकिन हमने तालाबों को नष्ट कर दिया। जो थोड़े बहुत तालाब बचे थे उनको व्यावसायिक केन्द्रों को दे दिया और इसका नतीजा यह हुआ कि आज हमारे देश में तालाबों की कमी हो गई। इससे हमारे यहां पेय जल का संकट पैदा हो गया। हमने उत्तर प्रदेश में खुद तजुर्बा करके देखा है। जिस गांव में तालाब हैं आज भी वहां छोटे नल चल रहे हैं और वे केवल बीस-पच्चीस फीट नीचे गाड़ दिए जाते हैं। लेकिन जहां तालाब नहीं हैं वहां पर इंडिया मार्क-2 भी फेल होते जा रहे हैं। इसके लिए हमें नियोजन करना पड़ेगा। मेघालय में बांस की नालियों से पानी जाता था, राजस्थान में बारिश के पानी को रोक कर कूंडों में भरा जाता था। जब तक ऐसी स्थितियां नहीं होगी, हमारा नियोजन ठीक नहीं होगा तब तक हमारे देश में कोई काम पूरा नहीं हो सकता। जहां तक पेय जल का सवाल है, जैसा मैंने शुरू में कहा कि इसका कारण बारिश कम होना नहीं है बल्कि और भी बहुत से कारण हैं। आज भी हमारे यहां 32.9 करोड़ हैक्टेयर भौगोलिक क्षेत्र है। उसमें.....

श्री सभापति : कौशिक जी, आप वाइंड अप कीजिए।

श्री रमा शंकर कौशिक : श्रीमन्, हमारे देश में लगभग चालीस करोड़ हैक्टेयर जमीन पर जो बारिश होती है अगर हम एक फीसदी भी उसको रोक लें तो हमें पेय जल की कोई असुविधा नहीं होगी। लेकिन हमको नियोजन बदलना होगा, ठीक है बड़े बांध बनाइये। हमने नहरों के जरिए सिंचाई की है। सभापति महोदय, यह भी सच है कि अंग्रेजों के जमाने में जहां हम नहरों से 34 फीसदी खेती करते थे, सिंचाई करते थे वह आज केवल 40 फीसदी ही बढ़ी है। हम तमिलनाडु में तालाबों द्वारा *थेरी* से 17 फीसदी तक खेती की सिंचाई करते थे वह अब केवल 5 फीसदी रह गई है। यह संकट हमारे नियोजन के कारण पैदा हुआ है। हमें ऐसी योजनाएं, परियोजनाएं बनानी पड़ेंगी जिससे कि जो हमारी पुरानी सभ्यता, पुराने रिवाज, पुरानी शैलियां रही हैं उन्हें अपनाकर, तालाब बढ़ाकर, बारिश के पानी को इकट्ठा करके हम अपनी पेय जल की समस्या को दूर कर सकें। सभापति महोदय, मुझे बस इतना ही निवेदन करना है।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. M.P.A. Samad Samadani. Not present. Shri Sukhdev Singh Libra. Not present. Shri C. Ramachandraiah.

SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH (Andhra Pradesh): Mr. Chairman, Sir, thank you very much for giving me this opportunity. The Government seems to have well realised the reasons for this trend of depletion in the ground water level. Reduction in recharge of aquifers, increasing demand in agricultural and industrial sectors and domestic needs, and change in

cropping pattern to water-intensive crops are the reasons which are stated here. They are absolutely correct. I don't want to deny them. This alarming situation has been the product of indiscriminate exploitation of the ground water. It is like a bank account. If you withdraw the amount continuously, the balance will dwindle. The same is the case with water resources also. It is a very scarce resource. The Government has treated it absolutely as a private source. The farmers or the consumers are allowed to exploit the water resources indiscriminately without any control by the Government. All the successive Governments did not have any vision. Had they got any vision and regulated it, the present state of affairs would not have arisen. This has got very dangerous social consequences. I will give you one example. The rural rich farmers are exploiting the situation. The poor farmers are unable to sink borewells and exploit the water for one acre or two acres of land. The very well-to-do households in urban areas are only capable of exploiting the groundwater. A survey says 37 per cent of the rural population and 32 per cent of the urban population are below the poverty line. They are absolutely unable to exploit the ground water. As the poor farmers are unable to exploit the groundwater, they have to depend on the water supplied by the big farmers who got the water resources. Since the poor farmers are not in a position to get the water, they are giving on lease or selling their lands to the big farmers and they themsleves become the agricultural labourers. These are the social consequences of the situation which has been created.

Recently, the Supreme Court has given directions to one research organisation, namely, the National Environmental Research Institute, to submit a report. In its report it is stated that in nine major States, including the bread baskets and rice granaries like Punjab, Haryana, Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu, in the country widespread water depletion is going on. The annual depletion of water in India is 1,000 billion cubic metres. One cubic metre of water weighs one tonne. That is what the survey has indicated. One thousand tonnes of water is equal to the production of one tonne foodgrains. Unless we arrest this trend, we will be deprived of 180 million tonnes of foodgrains per annum. That is the report which it has submitted. I am just explaining the alarming nature of the situation. Even in Punjab and Haryana more than half a metre of water depletion is taking place every year. In the process, in the coastal areas, it is attracting sea-water. Ultimately, instead of groundwater which has to be exploited,

3249 RSS/2000—15

the farmers are getting saline water which is not useful for farming purposes.

Sir, I will quote one more statistical figure which shows the alarming nature of the situation. The estimated annual water deficit of India is 104 billion cubic metres per year, whereas the figure in respect of China is only 30 billion cubic metres and in respect of the United States it is only. 13 billion cubic metres. I would like to make some suggestions to the Government. It should be treated as a national mission. It should be treated as a national task, on a priority basis, on a war-footing. You have to galvanise the entire nation. You should feel the enormity of the situation. You have to motivate the people. You have to carry the people with you. You have to involve them in the process of preserving the rain water. The drip irrigation system has to be encouraged. Around 30-70% of water can be saved through the drip irrigation system and the crop yield is 20-90%. Keeping in view the availability of water , the Government should come out with a new system, changing the present crop pattern, so that water will be utilised in an optimum manner, to the maximum advantage of the farmers, in the interest of high production. The second reason for this alarming situation is ecological inequilibrium. The Government is deliberately allowing the degradation of forests. There is no ecological balance. There is no regular monsoon. There is no recharging of the water that we are drawing. The replenishment is less than the withdrawal of water from the ground. So, this ecological balance has to be maintained. The Government should encourage afforestation on a large scale. Then, there are watershed programmes, water harvesting programmes. These are all the things which have to be taken up to preserve the rain water. As one of the hon. Member was saying, you know, only a very small percentage of the water which we are receiving from the rainfall, is being preserved. The major quantum of the water is going into the sea, because we are unable to preserve it. Sir, I appeal to the Government, if necessary, they should make a law to prevent this indiscriminate use of , or, exploitation, of ground water. This has to be considered by the Government.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please wind up.

SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Sir, I will wind up in two or three minutes. One of my appeals to the Government is to make a legislation, to convert these irrigation tanks into percolation tanks so that the water table

1.00 P.M.

can be improved, water can be drawn from bores and open wells. My last appeal to the Government is, there should be no complacency. We heard about the food riots and we are going to hear about water riots also, unless the Government becomes alert. We are answerable to the posterity. We should initiate all the measures that are necessary, on a war-footing, motivating the people, making it a movement and galvanising the people. Thank you, Sir.

SHRI B.J. PANDA (Orissa): Sir, there are some crucial ironies in the predicament that large parts of the country are facing today. There is shortage of water. Sir, I am not an expert on water conditions, but I have been listening to a discourse, a very learned discourse, that has been going on. First of all, sometime earlier this week,and even today, during this Calling Attention Motion, we have heard that part of the problem is because of the over-utilisation of the ground water resources. We have also heard that part of the problem is because of the under-utilisation of the ground water resources. The hon. Minister pointed out earlier during this week and also today, that in States such as mine, Orissa, the ground water utilisation is very much low. It is about 8%. And in certain other States, it has reached a level of about 100%. Both the situations are extremely dangerous. We seem to be lurching between the frying pan and the fire. The result is, we are suffering today, because certain areas have been over-exploited, and certain areas have just not been developed enough. It is a strange irony that needs to be addressed in a focussed manner. If you look at the statistics, you will find another strange situation. There is a great deal of alarm today about the crisis in Gujarat, about the crisis in parts of Orissa, and also in other parts of the country. But if you look at the statistics, this is nothing yet. The statistics show that the parts of the country that have been severely affected are really very small. And that shows the kind of dangerous potential there. With continuation of this kind of unmanaged development of ground water resources, the situation can be far more serious in the next two years, or, in the next five years.

I will just read out some statistics. The statistics show: If you leave out Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra -- there are 4,722 blocks-- and only 231 are over-exploited, which means more than 100 per cent utilisation of the replenishable water received every year; and only 107 blocks are dark, which means more than 85 per cent utilisation of the

replenishable water resources. If you look at Andhra Pradesh, -- it is counted in mandals - they have got 1,104 mandals; only six are over-exploited, that is, more than 100 per cent utilisation, and only 24 are dark, that is, more than 85 per cent utilisation. In Gujarat, out of 184 talukas, only 12 are over-exploited and only 14 are dark. In Maharashtra, where it is counted in watersheds, out of 1,503 watersheds, there is no figure of over-exploited watershed, and 34 are dark. The crisis is serious; the crisis is very, very grave and dangerous, but only a small part of the country has surely been affected. Yet, if we do not have a cohesive plan to mange the ground water resources, not to lurch from under-utilisation to over-utilisation, what I foresee is that within the next two to four years, we will be talking of a crisis far more severe in magnitude. I would like to draw the Government's attention to this, and would request the Government to focus on this aspect. Thank you.

श्री अनन्तराय देवशंकर दवे (गुजरात) : सभापति महोदय, माननीय मंत्री जी ने जो जवाब दिया है 'Main reasons for decline in the level of ground water' यह एक, दो, तीन चार, कर के जवाब दिये हैं। पैरा 3 में उन्होंने कहा है -"Water, that is to say, water supplies, irrigation and canals, drainage and embankments, water storage and water power, being a State subject..." उन्होंने अपने ऊपर से जिम्मेदारी उतार कर स्टेट गवर्नमेंट पर डाल दी है। कई दिनों से यह चर्चा सारे देश में चल रही है। आज मैं बहुत दुखी हृदय से यह बात कह रहा हूं। कई दिनों से इलेक्ट्रोनिक मीडिया और प्रिंट मीडिया ने बताया कि गुजरात और राजस्थान में किस तरह से पीने के पानी की यह कमी हुई, यह कहा कि यह स्टेट सब्जेक्ट है, हम यह चर्चा बंद कर दें। हम आपके पास आए हैं, क्या आपके पास कोई सुझाव नहीं है। तो मैं आपको बताता हूं। सभापति महोदय, गुजरात के लिए 1980 में नर्मदा योजना बनी, 1985 में वर्ल्ड बैंक से क्लीयरेंस मिल गया, 1987 में इनवायर्नमेंट ने अपनी क्लीयरेंस दे दी और अप्रैल, 1987 में कंस्ट्रक्शन का काम शुरू हो गया। आज इतने साल हो गये, मेरे कहने का यह मतलब नहीं है कि आप लोगों ने इसे रोक रखा है, लेकिन आप यदि चाहते तो इस नर्मदा योजना से गुजरात के करीब 3393 विलेजेज़ को पानी हम आसानी से पहुंचा सकते थे, 18 लाख हेक्टेयर जमीन को खेती की सुविधा पहुंचा सकते थे। गुजरात सरकार, सेंट्रल गवर्नमेंट और दूसरी फाइनेंशियल एजेंसीज़ का 9000 करोड़ रुपया इस डैम पर खर्च कर दिया गया है। आज के दिन यदि हम केवड़िया कॉलोनी जाएं, एक तरफ दृष्टि करें, सुरेन्द्रनगर, जामनगर, कच्छ, which is the most affected area -- it is situated on the border, just near to Pakistan - वहां के लोगों को पानी नहीं मिल रहा है। सभापति महोदय, 3-3, 4-4, 5-5 किलोमीटर चल कर पानी भरने के लिए

इस धूप में, गर्मी में जाते हैं, उनकी क्या हालत है। मेधा पाटकर ने जिस वजह से सुप्रीम कोर्ट में इस योजना को रोक कर रखा है, मैं किसी पर टीका टिप्पणी नहीं करना चाहता हूं लेकिन आज इस हाउस में इस फ्लोर पर कहना चाहता हूं कि हमारे कच्छ के ईस्टर्न और वेस्टर्न पार्ट से लोग खिसक कर इस तरफ आ रहे हैं। उस तरफ बिल्कुल पाकिस्तान की बस्ती बसी हुई है। पानी वहां तक जाने वाला है। जब पानी वहां जाएगा तो लोग वहां रहेंगे। हम उस बार्डर से 40-50 किलोमीटर दूर हैं। लेकिन मैं आज कहना चाहता हूं कि जब यह योजना बन जाएगी तो महाराष्ट्र खुश होगा, मध्य प्रदेश भी खुश होगा, सारा देश खुश होगा। गुजरात आबाद बनेगा। खुश कौन नहीं होगा? सिर्फ एक पाकिस्तान खुश नहीं होगा। वहां पानी जाएगा तो पाकिस्तान के लोग खुश नहीं होंगे। क्यों? क्योंकि वहां हमारे लोग जो आज रहते हैं वे फिर वहां जाएंगे। वहां रहेंगे। हमको वहां बसाना है। इसलिए मैं कहना चाहता हूं कि * वे चाहती हैं कि वहां यह पानी न जाए ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री सभापति : देखिए, ऐसी बात किसी के बारे में कहना ठीक नहीं है इस हाउस में।

श्री अनन्तराय देवशंकर दवे : मैं जिम्मेदारीपूर्वक ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री सभापति : मैं जिम्मेदारीपूर्वक भी आपको कहने नहीं दूंगा। This will not go on record. This is a very serious matter.

श्री अनन्तराय देवशंकर दवे : महोदय, मुझे ऐसा लगता है कि यह ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री सुरेश पचौरी : महोदय, यह कालिंग अटेंशन वाटर लेविल पर है। ये विषय से हटकर बात कर रहे हैं।

श्री सभापति : जो हाउस के बाहर हैं उन पर एलीगेशन नहीं लगाना चाहिए ...**(व्यवधान)**... किसी पर नहीं लगाना चाहिए।

श्री अनन्तराय देवशंकर दवे : मैं छोड़ देता हूं सभापति जी। लोग इस योजना को रोक रहे हैं। 65, 86 और 87 में भी यहां पानी का इतना भारी अकाल था। इन्हीं जिलों में जिनका मैंने नाम लिया। इतने जिले और दूसरे राजस्थान के जिले भी आज पानी की वजह से परेशान हैं। अब इस योजना को रोकने के लिए कई लोग आ गए हैं। एक बात तो सब स्तरों पर साबित हो चुकी है कि इस योजना को रोकने वाले कई विदेशी लोग हैं। मैं इसी लिए कह रहा हूं कि इसके पीछे कई ऐसे भी लोग हैं जो हमारे ...**(व्यवधान)**...

*Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, it is already 1.07 P.M.

श्री अनन्तराय देवशंकर दवे : मैं खत्म कर रहा हूं।

श्री सभापति : हां ठीक है। मैं टाइम एक्सटेंड कर रहा हूं। एक बजकर सात मिनट है ..We have three to five Members to speak. Every Member should take five minutes each. I think we will extend till the whole discussion is over. Everybody should restrict their speech to four to five minutes.

श्री अनन्तराय देवशंकर दवे : मंत्री महोदय, यहां मौजूद हैं। पानी की बहुत समस्या है। मेरा ऐसा कहना नहीं है कि सेंट्रल गवर्नमेंट ने पैसा नहीं दिया पीने के पानी के लिए। बहुत पैसा दिया है। लेकिन जो समस्या हल करनी है उसके हल करने का एक ही रास्ता है नर्मदा और जब नर्मदा योजना बन जाएगी तो सारे गुजरात को पानी मिलेगा, मध्य प्रदेश को पानी मिलेगा। राजस्थान को पानी मिलेगा, बिजली मिलेगी। इनके लिए एक ही रास्ता है।

मैं इस हाउस में 1990 से कई बार यह मसला उठा चुका हूं। कितनी बार मैंने यह बात कही है कि खराब दिन आ रहे हैं, खराब दिन आ रहे हैं। लेकिन आज तक वहां कुछ नहीं किया गया है। मैं आशा करता हूं कि सरकार इस बारे में कुछ न कुछ सोचेगी। आज पीने के पानी के लिए गुजरात के दिन बहुत खराब हैं। हम वहां जाते हैं। पिछले हफ्ते मैं गुजरात गया था। वहां के वेस्टर्न पार्ट जामनगर गया था। वहां हमारी मां बहिनें 5-5, 6-6 किलोमीटर पानी के लिए घूम रही हैं। उनको पानी की एक बूंद नहीं मिलती। इसी वजह से कह रहा हूं कि सरकार कुछ न कुछ करे। यह स्टेट गवर्नमेंट की जिम्मेदारी है ऐसा कहकर स्टेटमेंट में जवाब दे देना ठीक नहीं है। अच्छी तरह से सोचकर कुछ रास्ता निकालिए। इतना ही मेरा अनुरोध है। धन्यवाद।

श्री मूल चन्द मीणा (राजस्थान) : सभापति जी, मेरा प्वाइंट आफ आर्डर है। मैं एक निवेदन करना चाहता हूं कि कालिंग अटेंशन पर एक पार्टी से एक आदमी बोल रहा है जबकि यह जो कालिंग अटेंशन है जिस पर चर्चा हो रही है, बहुत महत्वपूर्ण है। राजस्थान और गुजरात पानी की वजह से भयंकर रूप से पीड़ित हैं। मैं चाहता हूं कि आप इसको रिलेक्स कर दें और ऐसे महत्वपूर्ण सब्जेक्ट पर राजस्थान और गुजरात के जिन सदस्यों ने नाम दिया हो उनको भी बुला लें। फिर जैसे कांग्रेस पार्टी के इतने सदस्य हैं लेकिन उसमें से एक बोलेगा, शिव सेना के दो सदस्य हैं और उसमें भी एक बोलेगा तो हमारे इतने सदस्यों के साथ यह अन्याय होगा।

श्री सभापति : जो आप कह रहे हैं वह बिल्कुल ठीक है। मैंने यह मसला पार्टियों के सामने कल और परसों रखा था। लेकिन मैं कोशिश करूंगा कि किसी तरीके से राजस्थान का भी एक आना चाहिए।

SHRI PRAFUL PATEL (Maharashtra): Mr. Chairman, Sir, we are discussing a very important issue regarding the water level in the country. India has historically been known as a land of plenty, whether it is plenty of water, lot of sun or now even a billion people. But it is very unfortunate that after all these years we are still discussing and debating about the very basic issue of providing safe and potable drinking water to our people or providing water for the agriculture or just about any other application of this precious resource. I have just gone through the statement of the Minister carefully. He has given various reasons for the problem and various suggestions by which this problem can be resolved, and if not resolved fully, then, the situation can be made, at least, a little bit more confortable.

He has also given a list of various States and districts which are affected by this problem. I would like to draw his attention to the list which he has given regarding Maharashtra. He has referred to only one district, Jalgaon, as having a fall in ground-water level of more than four metres during the pre-monsoon periods. I think a lot of people are here from Maharashtra. My friend, Mr. Prabhu, is also here. Mr. Nirupam, you are from Mumbai and you have no idea beyond the boundaries of... *(Interruptions)* ...or, you straightaway go to Bihar. It is a serious issue. I don't want to make a light conversation. I just want to bring to your attention the fact that Jalgaon... *(Interruptions)* Pardon!

SHRI SHATRUGHAN SINHA (Bihar): There is a majority of Bihar here.

SHRI PRAFUL PATEL: Yes. But all that Bihar is from Bombay. *(Interruptions)*

श्री संजय निरुपम : इनसे ज्यादा मैं विदर्भ में घूमता हूं।

श्री प्रफुल पटेल : ठीक है, ठीक है। पहले आप उधर लोक सभा में एक-आध बार आइये, फिर सोचेंगे। जलगांव जिले के बारे में आपने यहां उल्लेख किया है, महोदय। I think this problem is far more serious in various other districts other than Jalgaon. I am not saying that Jalgaon does not have this problem; but this problem is far more serious in various other districts also of Maharashtra. I think, therefore, this list which you have provided to us, needs to be thoroughly re-examined, not only in the context of Marashtra, because if this could go wrong in the case of Maharashtra, then, I think, what you have provided in the list here, the other parts of the country also need to be

rechecked thoroughly, not only for the purpose of presenting it to the Parliament, but also from the point of view that your department is better aware of the problem in various parts of the country.

Sir, I understand the constraint of time. Therefore, I just want to be brief and practical.

This problem is a universal problem across the country. Of course, we have some States where we have year-round water in the form of rainfall or rivers flowing from the Himalayas. So, the problem is a little less acute there. But, still, by and large, when it comes to potable drinking water, I think, various States, even where there is water in plenty, that problem is a serious problem. Almost, in three to four months of the year, in most parts of the country, drinking water is a serious problem; even in a State like Maharashtra. My friend, Mr. Nirupam, was waxing eloquent about his Government's achievements in terms of giving water to half the villages or 70% of the villages. Well, I do not want to dwell on that. But I would, at least, like to bring to the notice of the Minister that the problem of drinking water in Maharashtra is such that even today in more than 50% of the villages tankers have to be provided. महाराष्ट्र टैंकर मुक्त, यह तो बोलने की बात है। There is a serious problem of drinking water even in a State like Maharashtra which we do not normally associate when it comes to water shortages or water level in the country. My point here is that we had initiated a scheme four years back in Maharashtra which is known as Water Conservation Scheme.

We have a separate Ministry. Earlier water used to be a subject of the Irrigation Department or the Urban Development Department used to look after the urban water supply. Now in Maharashtra, we have a special programme known as water conservation, watershed development. It is a separate Ministry; it is a separate Department which exclusively looks after harvesting of water.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please wind up.

SHRI PRAFUL PATEL: Sir, I am winding up. That is why I am making only one or two core points. Sir, commendable work has been done on that. But still a lot more needs to be done. My suggestion to the hon. Minister is that water may be a State subject but it is on the Concurrent List. It must be the endeavour of the Central Government to bring enough

resources available to the State Government whether it is Maharashtra or Orissa or any other State in the country. Then we have effective use of water through the means of water conservation, having check dams on nallas through which, as you know, monsoon water is washed out to the rivers and subsequently to the sea. Then we have check dams and earthen dams. Accordingly, I think, ground water table in various parts of Maharashtra has definitely shown improvement. The same principle, the same formula can be adopted in various parts of the country which would definitely lead to a change in the water table in various parts as you have envisaged. There have been various suggestions made. But one thing is certain that most of our water is getting washed away into the sea and on the other side in a State like Gujarat which my friend, Mr. Dave, was mentioning, there is water scarcity. We have so much of sea water also. I am not saying that sea water is potable as is where and as it is. There are instances all over the world where we see water is being desalinated and is being used even for human consumption. Even I would say in Gujarat a private company is supplying water to the city of Jamnagar. This water from the sea is desalinated and is used; it is as good as safe drinking water. Sir, we have such a large coastline. So many urban areas are along this coastline. Why can't this water also be used cost effectively? I must say there are various ways and means to exploit this kind of a possibility. I would urge upon the Minister also go into all these aspects. A State like Gujarat is reeling under the effects of drought. Probably the same problem could have been eased to a substantial extent had this kind of a scheme been envisaged by the Government. I think that also needs some serious introspection. I appreciate that you have constraint of time. Therefore, I would like the Minister to dwell on these points very carefully. Thank you.

SHRI R. MARGABANDU (Tamil Nadu): Sir, water potentiality in India is assured only up to 2025 and further it is a question mark. Sir, in North India we have rivers like the Brahamputra, the Ganga and other Himalayan rivers. It is identified that surplus water is going into the sea. The flood prone areas, the waterlogged areas have been identified. It is known to the Ministry also. As a matter of fact, when there are floods, there is devastation of the entire habitation. Annadurai, the lion of the Dravidian Movement, suggested in this House that the North and the South should be connected by a channel, by connecting the Ganga river with the Cauvery river. Nowadays due to technological improvements it is not

difficult to dig channels connecting these river waters. It can cater to the needs of the people and can also avoid drought. It can provide drinking water. As a matter of fact, Justice Sarkaria in his report at page 89 recommended, "The Government of India may declare all inter-State rivers in the country as national rivers because most of the major rivers are inter-State in character." So, this is a recommendation by the Sarkaria Commission. Sir, it is also in consonance with the demand made by the people from Southern states that the Ganga and the Cauvery should be linked. Sir, by linking this, several problems, which the entire country is facing, can be solved. Now, day by day, the water table is going down. It has been mentioned in the statement by the hon. Minister that the Ministry has indentified, in Tamil Nadu, the districts of North Arcot, Dharmapuri, South Arcot, Salem, Coimbatore, Pudukottai, Madurai, Tiruvarur, Kamarajar, Tirunelveli, Tiruchirapalli, Thanjavur, where there is a fall of more than four meters in the ground water level and the water table is going down day-by-day. consequently, it will lead to a situation in mind, the Government must take effective steps and I also request this Government to make some legislation to control this indiscriminate explotation of underground water. Otherwise, this indiscriminate exploitaton of underground water will, as has rightly been said by Shri Ramchandraiah, lead to a situation where the poor people will not be able to exploit water through bore-wells, etc., whereas the industrialists and big farmers, with their money power, are able to exploit water to the greatest extent possible and make the poor people, with one or two acres of land, fail to do anything. In our State, earlier also it was stated, even for construction of a water tank five departments - Forest and Environment, Rural Development, Water Resrources, Agriculture and Finance - are to be consulted. If all these departments are to be consulted, naturally, it takes years together. Hence, I humbly requst the Central Government, let there be a channelisation of rivers for regulating this kind of things. as a matter of fact, it is reported recently in Tamil Nadu, a lot of effluent wter drained into the river. Sir, water from a dyeing company was drained into Amaravati River. As a result, more than one thousand people were admitted to hospitals and some deaths were also reported. That is the position. In our place - North Arcot - from Vaniampadi up to Ranipet the entire area is contaminated by tannery effluent water. The result is, the whole water has become contaminated, the water has become unfit for drinking and it causes

diseases.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please wind up now.

SHRI R. MARGABANDU : I am finishing it in one minute. The hon. Minister for Health is also from that area. It is well known that by drinking that water, people are affected with diseases and other things and more than one lakh acres of land has become saline. this can also be taken into consideration. Sir, the North Arcot and Vellore District has been blacklisted and no permanent service connection is being given to those people. I request that some effective steps be taken by the Government and the Ganga-Gauvery link channel can be thought of by this Government and this will be the salvation for the entire nation and to whichever State they want to allocate water, let them do that allocation. Of course, that can be decided. And, instead of allowing water unneccessarily and wastefully to go into the ocean, the rivers can be channelised. As a result, the entire nation can become prosperous. Thank you.

SHRI SWARAJ KAUSHAL : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the decline in water level is a post-1962 phenomenon. During the years 1971-1983 - in 12 long years - the water level in Delhi declined between four meters to eight meters. But, it took just two years i.e., between 1983 and 1985, the water level declined by four meters to eight meters.

Sir, we depend very heavily on monsoons and, somehow, we have accepted that drought and floods are in-built in to our monsoonal ecology. The reason is little different. The reason for this decline in water level is that we have abandoned our ancient system of water management. During ancient times, as Mr. Kaushik has pointed out, the cities were established by the sides of the river banks; and other cities and towns, like Jaipur, Jodhpur, Bhopal, Jaisalmer and so on, collected the rain water and conserved it for use for the purpose of drinking and agriculture. Mr. Minister, your statement is silent on one count and that is related to the contamination of the underground water. As Shri Sanjay Nirupam has point out, the Nitrates present in the underground water are carcinogenic in nature. You, being a doctor, can appreciate this that the fluorides present in the underground water cause neurological problems, and the mercury present in the underground water is as much as 58 times than the normal standardised water, and this contamination is a major source of infant mortality amongst children. There is another problem. The contaminated underground water

cannot be cleaned because the cost is enormous. The reason is that our industry considers borewells as dustbins of effluents.

Mr. Minister, you have mentioned about water storage laws being incorporated into the urban development laws. Sir, Himachal Pradesh has already done this. I think we should examine the Himachal experience and have it incorporated in the urban development laws of other States. You have also mentioned about the creation of the Ground Water Authority. I am sorry, this was not done by the Union Government. It was done pursuant to the directions issued by the Supreme Court of India. In addition, the Supreme Court mandated in paragraph 12 of its judgement given in the case of Shri M.C. Mehta in 1977. We would like to know from you as to what action you have taken on the mandate given by the Supreme Court. That mandate says, "The main object of the constitution of a board, as an authority, is the urgent need for regulating the indiscriminate boring and withdrawal of underground water in the country. We have no doubt that the authority, so constituted, shall apply its mind to this urgent aspect of the matter and shall issue necessary regulatory directions." So, you are empowered to issue directions to the State Governments. Your role is not merely that of giving advice or consultative in nature. With a view to preserving and protecting the underground water, this aspect may be taken up by the Authority on a very, very urgent basis. That is the mandate of the Supreme Court. You have also mentioned about the circulation of a model Bill. It is pending for the last 30 years. When you circulated it first, it was in the year 1970! May I know from the hon. Minister as to what is the development in this regard? Shall we be mere helpless spectators waiting for the State Governments to act, or, shall we realise the need of the hour and call upon the State Governments to act quickly because this is the mandate of the people, this is the mandate of the country and this is the mandate of the Supreme Court? I again request you, Mr. Minister, that this British system of water management will not help. We have to resort to our ancient system of water management, and that survived for thousands of years. I think that alone is the ultimate solution to the water problem in the country. Thank you, Sir.

SHRI N. R. DASARI (Andhra Pradesh): Mr. Chairman, Sir, this Calling Attention motion on depleting water resources has come for discussion in this august House at a very right time when the drinking water problem has become very grave in India and some States have been hit by

sever drought.

I would like to associate myself with the ideas of my hon. colleagues on this problem. We have come to a stage when tens of crores of masses are starving for want of drinking water. The problem of depleting water resources is inextricably linked with river water projects, small, medium or major. This will help us to raise the ground water level in some areas as well as control the flooding of the rivers. The water management programme, campaigned by Anna Hazare in Maharashtra, has to be popularised and extended to other parts of the country.

There is a large scope for exploitation of the ground water. Though a large portion of the available ground water resources remains untapped, over-exploitation of the resources in some areas has created problems. After the hydro-geological surveys carried out during 1976-86 in twelve major States, namely, Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal, covering 627 blocks, 351 blocks have been declared as dark blocks with over-exploitation and reduced ground water, whereas 276 blocks have been identified as grey blocks where similar problems were developing. Indiscriminate exploitation of ground water from such areas needs to be regulated through legal provisions.

This is no longer just a rural problem. Cities too are now buckling under the strain of water shortage. We ought to learn from the example of rich industrialised countries which have incorporated conservation both in policy and in the daily lives of the people. Since most of the area in cities is occupied by buildings, concrete floors, roads and foothpaths, the entire rain water is channelised into drainages. Therefore, there is an urgent need to conserve most of the rain water during monsoons for further use during lean periods.

I would like to cite an example, what I have learnt from the media. In Madhya Pradesh, a water-shed management project based on tapping of rain water, has turned Jhabua into one of the greenest districts of the State. In another town in Madhya Pradesh, named, "Dewas," one can find a number of water-harvesting structures on building roofs, all raised during a one-year drive by an efficient District Collector. This scheme should be popularised all over the country. NGOs will have to play a more active role for spreading the message of rain-water harvesting across the country.

The last point. The Minister of Water Resources, in reply to a question in the Lok Sabha on the 3rd of May, 2000, has said that the proposal for formulation of a Central scheme to assist States in artificial recharge of ground water, is still at the consultation stage. This is unfortunate. This should be attended to as a priority task.

India's ground water is being polluted by numerous factories that directly pump untreated effluents into the ground through dry borewells. Pollution of ground water is as bad a crime as any other that can be perpetrated on human-kind. Once polluted, ground water is almost impossible to be cleaned, and the cost is prohibitive. The Governments, both at the Centre and in the States, should take effective measures to avert this increasing damages of pollution. Thank you.

[THE VICE-CHAIRMAN **(SHRI SURESH PACHOURI)** in the Chair]

SHRI S. AGNIRAJ (Tamil Nadu) : Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, for the past several years, we are facing the problem of depletion of water level in various parts of the country. Though we got enough rainfall in the last 25 years, we could not store it. On an average we are getting a rainfall of 105 cms. In West Bengal, sub-Himalayas and certain parts in North, we are getting 200 cms and 1000 cms of rainfall. About fifty per cent of the annual rainfall percolates to the soil and becomes a part of the water reserve in the underground. About 86 per cent of the total water available for use in India is from surface runoff, rivers, lakes and tanks. About 60 per cent of the total reserves is associated with rock formation in the plains of North India. The per capita availablity of water in 1955 was 5,277 Cu.m. Now, in 2000, it has been reduced to 1,970 Cu.m. So, the per capita availability of water has been reduced. In order to check this reduction, our Tamil Nadu Government has taken various steps. Now, throughout Tamil Nadu, desilting work is being expedited to arrest seepage. Modern irrigation methods like spring irrigation have been introduced. Water is an important thing in our life. The existence of water varies from State to State. Even though we are getting enough rainfall, we are not using modern technology to store it. We are unable to augment the level of water. Both the officials of the Panchayati Raj and the State Government officials should sit together and solve the water problem quickly. We are talking about the water problem only for one month in a year. For the rest of the period, we are not talking about it. We should take necessary steps to augment the water and

utilise it in a proper manner. In his reply, the Hon. Minister has said that they are giving enough amount to all the States under the Water Supply Programme, the Minimum Needs Programme, the Rajiv Gandhi National Drinking Water Programme, Pradan Mantri Gram Prajan Yojana. But there is no proper coordination between the officials of the Panchayati Raj, the officials of the State Governments and the officials of the Central Government to use it in proper manner. There is no proper utilisation of the amount. It has not reached up to the village level. So, the Government should ensure that the amount reaches up to the village level also. I want to know from the hon. Minister : (1) What concrete action has been taken to augment the ground water availability? (2) What action has been taken to prevent the increase in salinity in the coastal areas? (3) Is there any proposal to store the rain water and utilise the same for drinking and irrigation purposes; and also to provide a reasonable degree of protection to the areas prone to floods so that availability of irrigation water is increased? That is all. Thank you.

श्री गांधी आज़ाद (उत्तर प्रदेश) : महोदय, मंत्री जी द्वारा जो विवरण दिया गया है, उसमें भू जलस्तर की गिरावट के प्रमुख कारणों में से एक कारण शहरीकरण और खेती तथा उद्योग पर बढ़ते हुए दबाव को भी बताया गया है। मेरी समझ में यह कारण तो है ही, यह कारण जो है वह पानी की मांग के कारण है लेकिन मैं मंत्री जी का ध्यान आकर्षित करना चाहता हूं कि इससे भी प्रमुख कारण है कि जो हमारे देश में जन संग्रहण के परम्परागत साधन रहे हैं, आज उन साधनों का विलुप्तीकरण होता जा रहा है। हम प्रायः देख रहे हैं कि जो गांवों में तालाब थे, ताल-तलैया थे, झील और नदियां थी, आज भी कागज़ों पर तो वे हैं लेकिन असल में देखा जाए तो कहीं खेती हो रही है, कहीं आबादी बसी हुई है जिसके कारण पानी का जलस्तर नीचे गिरता चला जा रहा है। इसलिए मैं माननीय मंत्री महोदय से जानना चाहता हूं कि क्या ये प्राकृतिक साधन - ताल-तलैया, नदी, नाले जो दिन-प्रतिदिन पाटे जा रहे हैं, इन पर खेती या जनसंख्या का घनत्व बढ़ता जा रहा है, क्या मंत्री जी के पास ऐसी कोई योजना है या ऐसा कोई कार्यक्रम है जो इनकी संरक्षा कर सके?

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री सुरेश पचौरी) : राजस्थान ऐसा राज्य है जहां लगभग 26 ज़िले ऐसे हैं जहां वाटर लेवल नीचे आया है। सभापति महोदय का निर्देश था कि राजस्थान से एक वक्ता को बुलाया जाए तो अब श्री मूल चन्द मीणा बोलेंगे।

श्री मूल चन्द मीणा (राजस्थान) : सभापति महोदय, सबसे पहले मैं आपको धन्यवाद देना चाहूंगा कि ऐसे महत्वपूर्ण विषय पर सदन में जो चर्चा हो रही है, उस पर बोलने

के लिए मुझे आपने मौका दिया। मैं मंत्री जी का ध्यान आकर्षित करना चाहूंगा कि राजस्थान एक ऐसा राज्य है जिसके किसी न किसी हिस्से में हमेशा अकाल की भयंकर स्थिति बनी रहती है और जिसमें पीने के पानी का तो भयंकर अकाल है।

महोदय, मैं यह ध्यान इसलिए आकर्षित कर रहा हूं कि पहले जिस एरिया के कुओं में पानी था, वहां जो नदियां बहती थीं, उस एरिया के कुओं में पानी कभी सूखता नहीं था पर आज स्थिति बदल गई है, पानी का लेवल नीचे चला गया है और जिस एरिया में नदी.....छोटी-छोटी नदियां हैं राजस्थान में, कोई बड़ी नदी तो है नहीं, तो उन छोटी-छोटी नदियों पर बांध बना दिए गए और उनके नीचे के हिस्से में जो नदियां बहतीं थीं, उन हिस्सों में आज स्थिति भयंकर बन गई है पीने के पानी की। पहले सिंचाई की प्रॉब्लम थी, उसमें पानी कम हुआ और आज यह स्थिति बन गई है। तो मैं यह निवेदन करना चाहूंगा कि पानी की दोबारा व्यवस्था करने के लिए आप उन नदियों पर छोटे-छोटे एनिकट बना दें। जो नदियां आती हैं, जैसे मैं उदाहरण के तौर पर बताना चाहूंगा कि एक पाचना बंध है करौली ज़िले में, उस पाचना नदी पर बंध बन गया तो बंध से नीचे नदी पर जो गांव होते थे, उन गांवों की स्थिति दयनीय हो गई है। आज स्थिति यह है कि वहां के लोग पलायन कर गए हैं दूसरे एरिया में पीने के पानी के लिए। इसलिए उस नदी के ऊपर जो भी एरिया है, उसमें एनिकट बनाए जाएं। साथ ही राजस्थान की कई योजनाएं आपके मंत्रालय में पड़ी हुई हैं। इंदिरा लिफ्ट योजना द्वारा चम्बल से सवाई माधोपुर, दौसा और करोली जिले को पानी मिल सकता है। इससे सिंचाई और पीने का पानी मिलेगा। यदि आप इंदिरा लिफ्ट योजना को मंजूर कर दें तो कम से कम तीन-चार जिलों में तो पानी की समस्या दूर हो सकती है। राजस्थान में पुराने प्राकृतिक साधन थे, छोटे-छोटे तालाब, तलैया और झील थे, आज वे सब समाप्त हो गए हैं। मेरे गांव की यह स्थिति थी कि वहां पर बीस तालाब थे, आज केवल एक तालाब है। तालाबों की वजह से कुंओं में पानी रहता था। अब कुंए भी सूख गए हैं। इसलिए मेरा अनुरोध है कि पुराने तालाब, जो कि प्राइवेट लोगों के तालाब हैं उनको आर्थिक सहायता दी जाए ताकि उनको पुनजीर्वित किया जा सके। इससे कुंओं में पानी बढ़ेगा। पिछले तीन सालों में पीने के पानी की व्यवस्था के लिए केन्द्र सरकार से राजस्थान को बहुत सहायता दी गई है। हैंड पम्प लगाने की स्कीम के लिए तथा पानी की अन्य योजनाओं के लिए काफी पैसा दिया गया है। लेकिन न तो हैंड पम्प लगे और न ही ट्यूबवैल लगे। ठेकेदारों, अधिकारियों और कर्मचारियों ने मिलकर बिल बनवा लिये। इस योजना के अंतर्गत 32 जिले हैं। इसके लिए आप कलेक्टर को पत्र लिखकर जांच करवाएं कि कैसे वाटर वर्कस डिपार्टमेंट ने ठेकेदारों से मिलकर गड़बड़ की है। आप यह जांच करवाएं कि वास्तव में हैंडपम्प या ट्यूबवैल खोदे हैं या नहीं। जितना पैसा सरकार ने दिया है उसका सदुपयोग हुआ है या नहीं? पहले भी जांच कराई थी

तो घोटाला पाया गया था इसलिए पिछले तीन सालों की जांच कराई जाए। राजस्थान में पीने के पानी की कमी नहीं थी। इंदिरा गांधी नहर अपने भांखड़ा नांगल से निकली। लेकिन यह नहर छोटे इलाकों तक जाकर समाप्त हो गई है। इसलिए मैं चाहूंगा कि इंदिरा नहर जैसी ही कोई और स्कीम गंगा नहर से निकाली जाए। क्योंकि गंगा का बहुत सा पानी बेकार जाता है। इसका सदुपयोग हो इसलिए कोई योजना बनाएं। ...**(समय की घंटी)**... आजादी के पचास साल बाद भी वहां दयनीय स्थिति है। राजस्थान की जो स्कीम आपके पास है उनको प्राथमिकता के आधार लें ताकि कम से कम इतने साल बाद लोगों को पीने का पानी तो मिल जाए और राजस्थान के कुछ एरिया में पीने के पानी की प्रोब्लम दूर हो सके। यही मेरा निवेदन है।

DR. C.P. THAKUR: Sir, at the very outset, I thank all the Members for taking part in the discussion, and I find that the suggestions given by the Members are very valuable. There is no discrepancy between the intention of the Government, action of the Government, the planning of the Government and the suggestions given by the Members. Now, Sir, the vital importance of water for life and civilization cannot be oversaid. The existence of water storage structures and water delivery system have been confirmed in earlier civilisations in our sub continent, such as the remains of the Harappan civilization. Some of the Members have referred to it in their speeches. Our sacred books, such as the Rigveda, recognised the importance of water in the cycle of life. This is also reflected in the canto of the Mahabharata which states that life is sustained by food, but food itself result from rain.

The importance of water production and its structures, such as wells, tanks and lakes, finds mention in many books, such as the Vishnu Puran, the Vishwakarma Vastu Shastra and so on. The concept of water as a resource, which has to be managed properly in the interest of public, finds a clear mention in the Kautilya Arthashastra which lays down the duties of the responsible Government in erection of water works and the regulation of water rights.

With the rise in population and a significant increase in the living standards, its importance has become far more critical today. More importantly, the expectation of the people has gone up. Therefore, it is the duty and the responsibility of the Centre and the State Governments to ensure adequate availability of water, firstly, for drinking purposes; and, then, for agriculture, industry and other uses. The present water crisis in

many parts of the country has to be taken care of. Now, I will reply to the issues raised by some of the hon. Members. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE (West Bengal): The paper can be circulated to all the hon. Members so that they can read it.

DR. C.P. THAKUR : All right. Our Prime Minister is very keen on solving this drought problem. At present, there is a crisis. So, the problem should be solved on a permanent basis. Most of the Members have mentioned that there should be a permanent solution to the problem. We are working towards that.

Mr. Suresh Pachouri, in his remarks, gave many suggestions. The Government is working on those suggestions.

Sir, Prof. Bharati Ray suggested something about legislations. She also mentioned that the rich farmers are taking more water than the poor farmers. That is a fact. Our Department of Ground Water will legislate on it and prevent such use. If some farmer is using excessive water, certainly, there should be a law to regulate that. We are going to do that.

Shri Sanjay Nirupam raised the issue of revising the National Water Policy. The National Water Policy is being revised and the Prime Minister is its Chairman. The meeting was to be held in March, but some Members raised the issue that some cases were pending in the Supreme Court, and a discussion on the National Water Policy might have an adverse effect on their prospect in the Court. Therefore, the meeting was postponed. It will be taken up very soon, in the month of June or July.

Shri Prem Chand Gupta had raised the issue of flood control in Bihar. We are actually working on that. Recently, the Foreign Minister of Nepal came here and we talked about flood control in Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and West Bengal. We are going to take up this issue again with the Government of Nepal.

Shri Rama Shanker Kaushik mentioned about the importance of traditional methods. I agree with him. He knows that the Party to which I belong believes in Swadeshi. So, we are going to revive all the traditional methods. At least, in the Water Resources Ministry, we are going to combine both the traditional and modern methods.

Shri C. Ramachandraiah gave many suggestions. I agree with all the observations that he made. We are going to take up all those issues.

Shri Panda also raised some points. We are going to tackle both the issues.

Sir, hon. Shri Dave raised the issue of Sardar Sarovar project. The case is pending in the Supreme Court. Its judgement is awaited; it will come in a few days. I agree with the suggestion that if the Sardar Sarovar project had been completed, then, some of the problems of Gujarat would have been solved. But in Gujarat, we are going to combine the Sardar Sarovar project with other methods also.

Shri Praful Patel also raised certain problems of rural development in Maharashtra. We are going to take note of that also. Shri Margabandu raised certain good points about the Ganga-Cauvery link. We are working towards it. There is no doubt that it is very expensive. If we go for completion of all the links in this country, it will cost Rs. 3,30,000 crores on the 1995 price basis. But we are going to take up some of the links and, gradually, we will take up all the links, and we are going to make a water grid for the whole country.

SHRI R. MARGABANDU: All the States, from north to south, will be benefited by it. So, it should be considered.

SHRI SWARAJ KAUSHAL: Which are the rivers that you are going to link?

DR. C. P. THAKUR: Actually, we are taking up some small links, not so expensive ones. I will come to this House with the details in respect of those links within a short time. But six links have been sanctioned and the engineering studies have been completed in respect of these six links.

SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE: Which are the rivers that you are taking up?

DR. C. P. THAKUR: When the details are ready, I will come to the House.

SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE: There is a lack of urgency on the part of the Government. You are taking it up in a routine manner.

DR. C. P. THAKUR: No. We are not taking it up in a routine manner. We are actually taking it up on an emergency basis.

SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE: I feel there is a lack of urgency on the Government's side. That is very unfortunate.

DR. C. P. THAKUR: It is not taken up in a routine manner. We have taken it up in a serious manner. The drinking water problem, the problem of providing water for irrigation and other things, prevention of flood, etc., are on the emegency agenda of our Ministry. We are taking up all these issues very seriously and not in a routine manner.

SHRI R. MARGABANDU: Sir, there is a point of order.

The Minister has himself assured in several fora that up to 2025 there may not be any problem. But the Minister has categorically stated that after 2025 there will be a water famine. In that case, the suggestions received from all the Members to solve the problem should be considered. The Ganga-Cauvery link canal will be the greatest boon for the entire nation. All the States will be covered and all the States will be benefited. Why doesn't the Government take some more initiatives and complete the project as quickly as possible?

DR. C. P. THAKUR: I agree with the Members in this regard. I have not said that there will be a famine after 2025. Actually, we are working on two fronts. On one front, the population will be controlled and, on the other, the water resources will be properly managed. We will have to provide drinking water to each and every citizen of India. So, we have to work on both the fronts.

SHRI MOOLCHAND MEENA: What about Rajasthan?

DR. C. P. THAKUR: The problem of drinking water in Rajasthan is certainly acute and, as you have said, we have to increase the sources of water in Rajasthan. Indira canal is one. We are thinking to extend this canal and we are taking other measures also. We have taken up this problem of drought on an urgent basis. I went to Gujarat in February. I come from an area where water is plenty, that is, Bihar. When I saw the conditions in Gujarat, I was really very much terrified. I saw the adjoining Rajasthan areas also. In February, the Central Government handed over all the wells constructed by our Department to the Rajasthan Government and the yields of these wells are very high. When there is famine or anything, the Central Government, the Water Resources Ministry, takes all the care. I am not blaming any State Government. The State Governments are also working in spite of resource constraints. In consultation with the State Governments,

2.00 P.M.

with the new regulations, we are going to improve the depletion of the water resources, and certainly we will try to provide not only drinking water but also water for other purposes to all citizens of India within a few years. Thank you.

SHRI S. VIDUTHALAI VIRUMBI (Tamil Nadu) : Sir, the issue raised today through this Calling Attention Motion is more serious than the ones which were raised before. It is a most serious Calling Attention Motion. That is number one. Four hundred and thirty-two billion cubic meters of water have to be replenished to augment the water level. We have got 40 million hectares of flood-prone area. Out of that, 32 million hectares of area can be reclaimed.

How ever only half of that area has been reclaimed so far? That has to be taken into account. Thirdly, the per capita availability which was above 5,000 cubic metres in 1950-51, has now come down to below 2,000 cubic metres. When it is so, just as you are announcing a North-East special package, a Jammu & Kashmir special package, there should be some special package for water conservation system, in consultation with all the State Governments. It should be taken up on a war-footing. I want to know whether the hon. Minister, taking into account the severity of the situation, is thinking of doing such things on a war-footing, in consultation with the State Governments. Even in the discussion on the Motion of Thanks I raised the issue of Ganga- Cauvery link, that is, upto, Mahanadi, to Cape Comorin, i.e. Kanyakumari, they can do it in the first phase. That should also be included in the package. The Government should seriously think about this issue. It is a national issue. It is not a political issue. Cutting across party lines, cutting across States, it is a national issue. In the Netherland's conference, they said that six States in India were going to be affected by this drought. Therefore, it should be taken up very seriously. I want a response from the hon. Minister.

DR. C.P. THAKUR: Actually, there is one package which is under the consideration of the Planning Commission. The moment it is approved, we will work on that package. We are going to take up this matter very seriously.

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री सुरेश पचौरी) : मंत्री जी, प्लानिंग कमीशन के सामने तो वह

स्कीम अभी भी प्रस्तावित है जो वहां से क्लीयर हो कर नहीं आई है। वह 101.5 करोड़ की रिचार्जिंग आफ ग्राऊंड वाटर की स्कीम है।

डा. सी.पी.ठाकुर : जब इस हाऊस में इतना डिसकशन हो रहा है, हमारे माननीय सदस्यों को इतनी चिंता है, प्लानिंग कमीशन इससे भी तो प्रभावित होगा और जल्दी मंजूर करेगा और हम लोग काम को पूरा करेंगे। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE (West Bengal): Sir, we want a direction from this House to the Planning Commission, as to what time-frame they have projected for this? What is your expectation from the Planning Commission? If the Government is unable to direct the Planning Commission to come up with a sanctioned scheme, what is the time-frame we have given? What time- frame the Government has in mind, keeping in view the depletion in the water level.

DR. C.P. THAKUR: I think that within... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: I have nothing to say. Is the Government satisfied with the action plan which is being given here? It has not given any time-frame. The problem which we are facing, -- Mr. Rajiv Shukla is here - and the way we are going to discuss it is not proper. I have nothing to say. It will only expose the Government. Actually, what do they feel? Is it discussion for discussion sake? The hon. Minister said that some schemes are there. Rs.100 crores is nothing. But if the scheme is with the Planning Commission, we will wait for it. These are the things which can be done normally. Why are we having a discussion here? What is war-footing? What signal we are giving to the people outside?. The water level has gone down to four metres. Right now, if we go out, what we are going to say? Will we say that everything is under discussion? This project has gone. This scheme has gone. This is what we have discussed.

DR. C.P. THAKUR: I fully agree with the hon. Member.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI): Shri Kailash Joshi.

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: I request the Chair to kindly direct the Government to come out with a more concrete plan on the issue, which has been raised today, including the scheme with the Planning Commission. There has to be a time-bound action plan on this. It cannot be a general discussion like this. Kindly give a direction. This is something on which everyone of us will agree.

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री सुरेश पचौरी) : मंत्री जी ने सदन की बात बहुत गौर से सुनी है।

श्री कैलाश जोशी (मध्य प्रदेश) : माननीय उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, अभी मंत्री जी ने उत्तर देते हुए बताया चूंकि सरदार सरोवर का मामला अभी सुप्रीम कोर्ट में है, इसलिए इसमें विलम्ब हो रहा है। मैं जानना चाहता हूं कि इस समय राजस्थान, मध्य प्रदेश और गुजरात तीनों राज्यों में सूखे की बड़ी विभीषिका है, अगले वर्ष यह न भोगना पड़े, क्या वह न्यायालय के बाहर तीनों राज्यों को बैठा कर के कोई चर्चा करने का प्रयास करेंगे?

डा. सी.पी.ठाकुर :उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, हम लोगों ने इसके लिए भी प्रयास किया था लेकिन अभी जब तक सुप्रीम कोर्ट से फैसला नहीं होता है, कुछ राज्य उसमें राजी नहीं हुए, फैसला दो चार दिन में होने वाला है तो उसके बाद हम लोग फिर प्रयास कर लेंगे।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI): If the House agrees, Private Members' business will be taken up from 3.00 p.m. to 5.30 p.m. The Short Duration Discussion on Jute and Jute products will be taken up at 5.30. Now the House stands adjoured till 3.00 p.m.

The House then adjourned for lunch at four minutes past two of the clock.

The House re-assembled after lunch at four minutes past three of the clock,
[THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI T.N. CHATURVEDI) in the Chair.]

THE COUNCIL OF STATES (ADMINISTRATION) BILL, 1999

DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for the establishment of a Commission to oversee the administration of the secretariat staff of the Council of States and for matters connected therewith.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI T. N. CHATURVEDI): Shri P. Prabhakar Reddy. He is not present. Shri Rajnath Singh 'Surya'. He is not present. Shri Amar Singh. He is not present. Shri K. C. Kondaiah. He is not present. Shri S. S. Ahluwalia.

THE GIRL CHILD (COMPULSORY EDUCATION AND WELFARE) BILL, 2000

श्री एस.एस. अहलुवालिया (बिहार): उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं बालिकाओं के